

URSULA TAYLOR V.C. LOWER SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
January 2008

I am delighted to have now taken up my position as Headteacher of Ursula Taylor and would like to say how welcoming everyone has been, staff, governors, children and yourselves as parents. My first priority is to get to know everyone and to find out as much about the school as possible.

I have been working closely with Mrs Carline over the past few months and together we have discussed plans for the future.

The staff have also been very helpful in identifying what makes this a good school and what they would like to see developed. Your views as parents are particularly important and a short questionnaire will be sent out to you in due course. In the meantime, please do come and introduce yourselves to me and, should you wish to have a longer discussion, please make an appointment to come and see me.

On behalf of the staff I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy new year.

All our Reception children are now in school full time and are settling very well.

Below is a list of dates of events already scheduled, together with a list of term dates.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

We continue with our Open the Book Collective Worship on Monday, when ladies from the local church communities, come into school to perform plays and stories from the Bible. This programme continues through to Easter. We also regularly welcome Rev. Stephen Liley and Rev. J. Owen into school for Worship.

Themes for this term are based on our personal and social education which are 'Going for Goals' in the first half and 'Good to be me' for the second half.

ROAD SAFETY

Member of Beds County Council road safety team will be visiting school on 21st January, when several of the other lower schools will be joining us for a presentation by 'Captain Safety'.

VISIT BY STRING GROUP

On 23rd January a string group from Bedfordshire Music Service will be visiting school and performing for the children.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Football club will re-commence on Tuesday 15th January: Netball club will commence on Thursday 17th January: (this will be for one term and High 5 and rounders will continue during the summer term) Choir will re-commence on Wednesday 16th January

CONSULTATION EVENINGS

Parents' consultation sessions will be held on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th March between 3.45 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. Lists will be in reception from 4th March, when you will be able to choose an appropriate appointment to see your child's teacher

FIRE SERVICE VISIT

The fire service will be visiting us on 11th March to talk to the Year 2 children.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Class photographs will be taken on Wednesday 19th March during the morning.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

LINCROFT LIAISON FOR YEAR 4

Lincroft Puppet Show	Year 4 children	31 st January
Lincroft Drama afternoon	Year 4 children	21 st February
Lincroft Music Festival	Year 4 children	18 th March
Lincroft Sports afternoon	Year 4 children	12 th June
Transfer Day at Lincroft	Year 4 children	3 rd July

(Further details regarding the Lincroft Liaison visits for Year 4, will follow).

BEDFORDSHIRE FESTIVAL

The choir and the drama group will be entering the March festival again this year. The exact details will follow when we receive them.

NEW PARENTS' EVENING

We will be holding a meeting for parents of our new reception children **for September 2008**, on Monday 28th April at 7.00 p.m. If you know of any children who have not registered for school, please ask them to contact us without delay.

HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

Schools are continually concerned at the amount of requests for holidays during term time. Our Learning Community are working together with the LEA Welfare Officer, to ensure that good attendance levels are maintained, and all applications will be tracked as children change schools. The law says that parents and carers do not have the right to take their children out of school; but in "exceptional circumstances" schools can allow them 10 days in a school year. Please bear this in mind when booking your holidays. Forms are available from the school office for requesting holidays, which must be completed at least two weeks prior the start date.

Mrs. L. Fraser
Headteacher

TERM DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

SPRING TERM 2008

Training day school closed		Wednesday 2 nd January
Thursday 3 rd January 2008	-	Thursday 20 th March
Half term week commencing		11 th February

SUMMER TERM 2008

Training day school closed		Monday 7 th April
Tuesday 8 th April 2008	-	Friday 18 th July
Half term week commencing		26 th May 2008
May Day school closed		5 th May
Training Day school closed		4 th July

AUTUMN TERM 2008

Training day school closed		Monday 1 st September
Tuesday 2 nd September 2008	-	Friday 19 th December
Half term week commencing		27 th October
Training Day school closed		Monday 3 rd November

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